

Remarks

Claims 1-27 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 9, 16, and 23 have been amended herein. Claim 28 has been canceled without prejudice herein. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

I. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indicated allowability of claims 23-25 and 27 subject to being amended to correct minor informalities. These claims have been amended to address the Examiner's concerns. Specifically, as the Examiner suggested, claim 23 has been amended to recite that new command objects allow use without modifying a plurality of applications, and that a plurality of command objects are useable by the plurality of applications.

Thus, claims 23-25 and 27 are now believed to be in condition for allowance. For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicants believe that other pending claims are also in condition for allowance.

II. RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Office Action requires restriction to one of (i) claims 1-27, and (ii) claim 28. Claim 28 has been canceled without prejudice herein. However, Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter recited in the canceled claim in a related application.

III. REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 1-27 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable based on combination of European Patent Publication EP 0 718 761 A1 ("Gosling") and U.S. Patent No. 6,078,951 ("Pashupathy").

Independent claims 1, 9, and 16 have been amended herein to further clarify one of the aspects of the invention. Specifically, independent claims 1, 9, and 16 now require similar recitations to those of claim 23, i.e., that new command objects allow use without modifying a plurality of applications, and that a plurality of command objects are useable by the plurality of applications. Based on these recitations, claim 23 has been indicated as allowable in the Office Action. Therefore, independent claims 1, 9, and 16 are also believed to be allowable over the cited art.

In view of the foregoing, independent claims 1, 9, 16, and 23, and their dependent claims are in condition for allowance over the cited art. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

IV. CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance at an early date. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 510-843-6200.

Respectfully submitted,
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Kwan', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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